

## BOOK NOTICE

*Blatchleyana. A List of the Published Writings of W. S. Blatchley, A.B., A.M., LL.D., of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Dunedin, Florida. Together with a Chronology of his Life: The Fixation of Types and New Genera and Species Described by Him, etc., etc.* The Nature Publishing Co., Indianapolis, 1930.

The title as given above tells what Dr. Blatchley, always practical and helpful, has to say in seventy-seven pages of his activities from the time he was born in Connecticut in 1859 to the present. He should feel justly proud of the record, for but few have been so helpful to their fellow naturalists as has been Dr. Blatchley.

*Blatchleyana* is a document of unusual interest for, in the "Chronology" with which it begins, it is an autobiography tracing the early struggles of the author to gain an education, meanwhile supporting himself by peddling notions on foot, and the later triumphs which culminate in the well-deserved honor of the degree of LL.D.

In the footnotes of the lists of species described by him, Dr. Blatchley has compelled the taxonomist to take notice of the publication by rising to their defence and combating the synonymy which has in some cases been proposed. His literary taste is exemplified on numerous pages by quotations from his own and other writings, and his strong personality is well shown by the two portraits.

The lengthy bibliography includes numerous titles, such as "Gold and Diamonds in Indiana" and the "Petroleum Industry," papers published from 1894 to 1911, during the time Dr. Blatchley was Indiana's State Geologist, but he has confided to us that his heart and mind during all that time leaned most strongly toward his beloved insects. The authors of this notice are gratified that they have had the privilege of knowing Dr. Blatchley intimately, of sympathizing with him, and they are pleased to find in the record of his life that on three different occasions during the preparation of his useful manuals on the insects of the eastern United States, that he has visited their homes and collections on Staten Island.—Wm. T. Davis, Charles W. Leng.